The Southern PATRIOT

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SOUTHERN "SECESSIONISTS" THREATEN WAR UNITY

Reactionary southern leaders who have long sabotaged President Roosevelt's leadership in the war effort and in the Democratic party are now bringing their fight into the open. In an address before the New York Southern Society, meeting in the swank Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New Deal-hating Frank Dixon, governor of Alabama, announced that die-hard southern Bourbons were daily discussing ways and means to "break our chains". "We will find some way, regardless of the effect on national elections," said Governor Dixon, as he threatened the formation of a "southern" party.

Dixon had previously declared that the state of Alabama would not produce war materials if in their production the federal government insisted on certain fair employment regulations. He is an old opponent of basic labor and social legislation now in force. In fighting against federal measures necessary to cope with the manpower problem, Dixon chooses to term such measures as attacks upon "segregation."

Governor Jones of Louisiana

Dixon's outburst follows a similar threat of a "southern" party by Governor Sam Jones of Louisiana, and both announcements are in the nature of "feelers" toward a coalition with reactionary Republicans in the North. Such reactionary political figures as Senators Bilbo, O'Daniel, George, and Reynolds, as well as Representative Cox, Rankin and Dies would join Negro-hating politicians like Eugene Talmadge and Horace Wilkinson in helping to found such a party.

The Dixon move indicates desperation on the part of these men, since it comes after Talmadge in Georgia and Blease in South Carolina had been defeated by an almost wholly white electorate in their bids for office based on so-called "White Supremacy." Although southerners like Senators Claude Pepper and Lister Hill have been leaders in our war program, many of the southern Democrats in Congress have interfered with the war effort and lined up with the defeatists. Dixon's dream of a "southern" party is based on lining up against Roosevelt with the Republicans for an all-out effort

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NAM Runs Industry-Church Mission

Driving with renewed vigor following its recent New York convention, the National Association of Manufacturers brought its crusade for church-industry unity into Memphis recently with a Western Tennessee Conference held "in cooperation with Memphis clergymen and business men."

Arrangements were in charge of R. L. Diffenbacher, one-time Presbyterian cleric. Most of the talking was done by S. E. Howie, pastor of Memphis' Westminster Presbyterian Church and president of the Memphis Ministers' Association; and T. Walker Lewis, an industrialist and officer of the National YMCA.

Views of the two men presented sharp differences.

Ponting out that while the Memphis Chamber of Commerce was "cooperating with today's program, it declined to cooperate recently when the Ministers Asso-

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Bottleneck Busting Bill

Armies win wars by getting to the right place at the right time with the right weapons in the hands of the right number of men. Armies must be backed up by production which follows the same rule: having the right materials at the right time at the right place with the right workers on the job.

That is the proposition lying behind the proposal now in Congress to create an Office of War Mobilization. Introduced by Congressman Tolan (Cal.) and Senators Pepper (Fla.) and Kilgore (West Va.), the bill is the result of the findings of five House and Senate Committees which have spent months in a painstaking study of the Nation's war effort.

They found that the men responsible for the production job showed little understanding of that basic rule of war—right men, place and time.

Instead, they were men guilty of trying to fight an unusual war on a business-as-usual basis. As Congressman Tolan told some reporters:

"The President said you can't buy fighting fronts made to order. They're tailor made. The same goes for production. You can't fit this outsize war with a ready-made suit taken from the peacetime rack."

Plenty of Planning Needed

To run war production, you've got to realize that it may take six months to get a gun from a steel stockpile in Birmingham to a Marine in Tunisia. And you've got to remember it may take another six months to get the ore from the ground into that steel stockpile.

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Bottleneck Busting Bill

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In other words, it takes plenty of planning to win a war like this one.

We didn't deliver our full offensive power in 1942 because we had no such plan. We had business-as-usual, which is built on planlessness. Instead of men who know machines, men and materials running the production show, we had bankers and salesmen. Long on maneuvers and finance, they were short on production savvy. As a result, there was endless jockeying among the companies with war orders, the industry branches of WPB, and the armed services.

Where there should have been teamwork, there has been confusion as the competitors scrambled to buy up and hoard the men, tools and materials required.

Patchwork Methods vs. Panzer Precision

Thus, production has hit one crisis after another. First, the jam in raw materials. The public remembers the argument over whether or not we had enough aluminum and steel capacity.

Then came the clash over conversion. Automakers didn't go to war until there were no more tires. Even now, nobody knows whether we are 30 or 50 per cent converted to war production.

Now we face a manpower crisis. Patchwork methods are again responsible, and patchwork is no match for the panzer precision of our enemies.

The people want results, not excuses. The people want to hear "It will be done!" not "It can't be done!"

The Toland-Pepper-Kilgore Bill

It's to get results that the Tolan-Pepper-Kilgore bill was introduced. Some people call it "The Congress Plan" because it is being backed by Republicans and Democrats in both houses. Others call it the "Bottleneck Busting Bill" because it is aimed at every unnecessary bottleneck slowing down the United Nations' march to victory.

Main Objects of the Bill

Its main objects are as follows:

1) Put procurement and production under one civilian roof.

2) Make an overall inventory of men, tools and materials.

3) Get from the military a detailed time schedule of needed supplies.

4) Route men and materials to meet this schedule.

5) Put competent engineers on the job of running war production.

"Prescription for Victory"

And this is the outline of the bill itself:

1) An Office of War Mobilization whose director is also chairman of a Board of War Mobilization. This office to call the shots on production.

2) A Committee on Requirements and Program made up of all the services, to decide what Army-Navy-etc., needs.

3) A Board of War Mobilization to include workers, farmers and management.

4) This Office to have four subagencies:

a) Office of War Production and Supply to do the buying and take charge of production.

b) Office of Manpower Supply to see the factories, farms and fighting forces have enough men and women to do the job.

c) Office of Technical Mobilization, to see that the best science has to offer is available to Uncle Sam.

d) Office of Economic Mobilization to keep the economic power of the country on the beam (price control, profit regulation, wage stabilization and so on.

This is the Congress' "Prescription for Victory." In it the South —the whole Nation—has a deep stake.

Southerners Commend Governor Johnson

For Statement on Lynchings

Seventy-six prominent citizens of Mississippi recently joined in sending a letter to Governor Paul B. Johnson of Mississippi, commending him for his forthright statement in connection with the three lynchings which occurred there within one week.

The letter, published as a full-page advertisement in the Jackson Clarion-Ledger, subsequently was signed by over 300 additional southerners from all of the 13 southern states, representing over 100 communities.

"Your recent statements," said the letter, "concerning democratic institutions, particularly as related to the maintenance of the due process of law reassures us that Mississippi and the South will not become the bridgehead of fascism in America."

"Your statements and actions," the letter continued, "indicate an awareness of the seriousness of these violent incidents, not only because of their disastrous effect upon the morale of our people, but because of the use to which our axis enemies put them to weaken the loyalties of our allies, especially the more than 600,000 allies of colored races."

In the event that the District Attorney did not actively prosecute the guilty persons, the letter called upon the Governor to direct the Attorney General to intervene.

Among the signers of the letter from Mississippi were two of the most distinguished members of the bar in that state, and a former member of the State Supreme Court, three prominent physicians, the Chancellor of the University, two Bishops and the pastor of almost every church in Jackson, professors and representatives of women's groups About one-third of the signers were Negroes.

(An SCHW project)

MAINTAINING HEALTH SERVICES

Growing Shortage of Doctors a Serious Problem

According to the Surgeon-General of the United States Public Health Service, more than 40,000 physicians, 8,000 dentists, and 30,000 nurses and other technicians are now in the armed forces. A disproportionate bulk of these people have come out of the South, where, even before the war, there was an appallingly inadequate supply of medical manpower and health facilities.

Throughout the nation, our health barracks are being destroyed by heavy military demands and are not being rebuilt rapidly enough to protect the civilian population. The offices of physicians and dentists are closing down as they depart for military service, and hospital staffs are being dangerously depleted, while none of the available sources are tapped to replace these losses.

There has always been a natural tendency for the medical profession to settle in cities and the wealthier areas of the country.

Few Hospitals in Rural Areas

Hospitals, clinics, and the staffs necessary to maintain them have also tended to cluster about the more densely populated centers of the country, thus leaving a general lack of facilities in the rural and poorer areas.

There are in the United States at present about 176,000 physicians. Discounting those who are ineffective by virtue of age or disability, those in laboratories and medical schools, those who are serving as internes and resident physicians, there remain approximately 128,000 physicians to serve both the military and civilian populations. When the Army requirements have been met and account taken of the fact that the Navy takes care of about 2,000,000 civilians, there will be approximately 80,000 physicians to a civilian population of 120,000,000 persons—or a ratio of 1 physician for every 1,500 persons of the civilian population. This is our wartime quota—the ratio which presumably determined the maximum number of physicians that should be withdrawn from any one State. Yet in the Southern States the number of physicians withdrawn exceeded the quotas to the following extent:

State	Pct. of Quota Reached
Alabama	194
Arkansas	119
Florida	115
Georgia	145
Kentucky	165
Louisiana	206
Maryland	104
Mississippi	155
North Carolina	160
South Carolina	170
Tennessee	158
Texas	140
Virginia	135
West Virginia	143

In all of these States, 50% or more of the total population reside in the rural areas—areas which as it has already been pointed out, are most sorely in need of added medical facilities.

The Southern Situation

In the State of *Alabama*, all but one of the 67 counties reported that the quota of 1 physician to 1,500 persons was not met. It was generally acknowledged that there was a shortage in the rural areas even before the war. In the State of *Georgia*, shortages were noted particularly around cantonment areas and in many rural sections where the need had existed for a long time. The State Health Officer of *Kentucky* reported that in Gallatin County there was no physician for a population of 4,307, that in Lee County there were only 2 physicians for a population of 10,860. The war ratio of 1 to 1,500 has not been met in 10 counties of the State, even when elderly and retired physicians were counted in the total number available. From the State of *Mississippi* it was reported that there were never enough physicians in the rural areas or even in the urban areas before the war. There are approximately 1,300 physicians to serve a population of over 2,000,000 persons, and "the military authorities have depleted the State of young physicians, including essential Public Health personnel." *North Carolina* reported that there are virtually no replacements for the vacancies created by the deaths of elderly and retired physicians, and that the war situation has made conditions worse. From *Tennessee* there came the sole remark that "the shortage is very obvious."

Need of Services for Mothers and Children

In 31 of the 33 States reporting to Dr. Martha Elliott, Associate Chief of the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor, Health Officers requested that some provision be made for additional maternal and child health services, or medical services for mothers and children. Five State Health Officers reported a Statewide need. In this connection *Alabama* reported the need of 12 counties; *Arkansas*, 9 communities; *Kentucky*, 11 counties; *Louisiana*, 7 centers, some of them densely populated areas; *Maryland*, 2 areas in which the need was particularly great. *Tennessee* listed 12 counties, and in *Virginia* it was stated that there were numerous rural areas in need of such aid.

In a recent address before a meeting of the Southern Medical

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Southwide Labor Meeting In Atlanta

A southwide AFofL meeting will convene in Atlanta January 16-18 at the City Auditorium to consider the question of war production, to map plans to stop the defeatest anti-labor drive and to counteract those elements who would prevent the organization of the South, announced George Googe, southern representative.

Unions Establish Record In Chest Drive

In Chattanooga the entire membership of 34 AFofL and CIO unions pledged two days pay to the Community Chest-War Relief fund. Typical of the enthusiasm of the entire campaign was the record of the Lucy Boiler and Manufacturing Company, where Local Union 1614 of the Steel Workers (CIO) signed up 100% of its membership in a one day's drive. Mr. W. A. Rhea is president, and Mr. W. E. Henderson vice-president of the Local. Mr. T. C. Erwin is president of the company, which is working on war contracts on a 24-hour schedule.

Attack on 40-Hour Is Effort To Cut Wages

Boris Shiskin, AFofL economist, speaking on the "Town Meeting of the Air" program, pointed out "there is no limit on hours of work required by law. In shipbuilding, machine tools and other key industries, 90 per cent of the workers have been toiling up to 56 hours a week and more." The Wage-Hour law does not limit hours but specifies that time and one-half shall be paid for all hours over 40. "Therefore, said Mr. Shiskin, "the question is not should the 40-hour week be suspended? It is, should wages be cut?"

In Knoxville, George L. Berry, president, announced that the printing pressmen had renewed their long-term arbitration pact with the publishers by referendum vote.

FARMERS BLAME ECONOMY-BLOC FOR FOOD SHORTAGE

The economy bloc in Congress is blamed by James Patton, president of the National Farmers' Union, for much of the present food shortage. It was this group, led by Senator Byrd, with the help of the Farm Bureau Federation, the National Grange, Senator McKellar of Tennessee and other "accomplices in Congress" that last year blocked the President's proposal to increase the appropriation for the Farm Security Administration.

"Shortages could have been prevented a year ago," the Farmers' Union said, "but a little group of men with a Byrd's-eye view of this global war and its food needs opposed $350,000,000 in farm appropriations. This amount would have brought at least half a million more experienced, patriotic but under-equipped and under-employed farm families into maximum production of war-vital foods."

The Farmers' Union is advocating a two and one-third billion dollar program for producing an additional 30 to 35% food production over a three-year period.

NAM Mission

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ciation sought to arrange a dinner conference among management, labor and the clergy," Howie raised five points:

Points Made by Rev. Howie

1) There are no problems common to industry and the church except those common to the church and labor.

2) The church has the right and duty to criticize the economic system under which people have to live.

3) Christianity thrives best under democracy, but capitalism has not produced true democracy.

4) The church is not dependent upon any economic system for its continued existence.

5) The church emphasizes human values while capitalism emphasizes profits—and between the two there is a fundamental antagonism.

Mr. Lewis' Remarks

Mr. Lewis made six points in his remarks:

1) America is an industrial nation.

2) Management is as much a profession as medicine.

3) Labor has a right to organize, but its function is operative as distinct from managerial.

4) Industry is not making big profits.

5) Preachers shouldn't criticize business without first understanding what business' policies and practice are.

6) Private enterprise and religious freedom must stand or fall together.

Ministers Deplore Absence of Labor

Clergymen present were inclined to go along with Rev. Howie, and many of them expressed the view that the voice of labor in the management of industry would not be entirely out of place.

Malvern and Delaware Conferences

Also expressed among the men of the cloth was the belief that the series of church-industry conferences being held by the NAM, of which the Memphis gathering was described as the "150th since 1940," was being held to "neutralize the effects of the Malvern and Delaware conferences."

(The Malvern Conference in England produced a declaration by English religious leaders in support of much broader democracy, and greatly increased rights for labor; the Delaware Conference produced a similar statement on the part of U. S. churchmen.)

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Colonel Waring's Pity Aroused

Colonel Roane Waring, of Memphis, Tennessee, national commander of the American Legion, has joined in the hue and cry of the rich and powerful interests against the $25,000 limitation on net salaries. Colonel Waring's pity is aroused for the poor little fellows who must struggle along on a mere $25,000 a year, but there is no record of his protesting the stabilization of wages, or of his showing any concern for the millions of southern workers and sharecroppers who must get along on less than $1,000.

In taking this position Colonel Waring opposes a principle for which the Legion has fought, namely, that there should be conscription of money as well as of human life.

More Rationing Needed

Not less fighting—but more fighting is needed to smash the enemy. And on the home front, we can say, "Not less rationing, but more rationing is needed to win the war." Following sugar, coffee and gas rationing, the government has now announced that, beginning in February, canned goods, dried and frozen fruits and vegetables will be rationed.

The entire rationing program is designed to provide our men in service with their necessities and to democratically provide the home front with what is left. If there were no rationing or price control program, the supplies left for those at home would be subject to profiteering, hoarding and black market operations. With rationing, all people, regardless of wealth or other considerations, are allowed to purchase equal amounts of the goods available. It is the system in operation successfully in Britain and Russia. It is the most democratic system and is an absolute war necessity.

In the South, where we have the lowest incomes in the nation, an extended rationing program, covering all food and clothing in addition to what is now rationed, would prove even more beneficial than in the remainder of the nation. Along with rationing, however, must go a real price control system to keep the cost of living down. Under such conditions, southern people would be able to buy decent meat and food as well as better clothing at prices no higher than in the rest of the nation.

Also it is imperative that the food stamp plan be continued to care for more than 10 million southerners whose income is below "the full ration level."

The New Congress

The new 78th Congress will meet during the most critical year of the war. It is possible, with the support of a unified nation acting in concert with our loyal allies, that 1943 will see the forces of darkness and slavery utterly defeated. The members of the 78th Congress could make a tremendous contribution toward that end. But present indications are that the new Congress will not, without considerable pressure, provide what is needed.

The most dangerous trend is the rapidly forming alliance between the southern Democrats and the reactionary Republicans. Such a coalition would place the winning of the war second to the partisan purposes of politically ruining the Roosevelt administration, wiping out social and labor legislation, and provoking the most serious disruption of war production and morale, which would bring our nation to the border of chaos and confusion.

NAM Provides Defeatist Program

The recent convention of the National Association of Manufacturers provided the pattern for those defeatest forces in Congress who wish to hamper the war effort. Instead of considering the main enemy to be Germany and Japan, such elements play upon old class prejudices to begin anti-labor drives, attacks upon established laws and thus prepare the way for the negotiated "peace" which Hitler will desperately need as he grows weaker. It was to such groups that President Roosevelt referred when he said he was "unalterably opposed to those selfish forces . . . who are seeking to use the war in order to repeal our great social and economic gains."

The win-the-war-people in the ranks of business, labor, agriculture and government who wish to forestall such a dangerous threat to the success of the war program, must be politically alert and active during the sessions of the 78th Congress. The defeatists must not be permitted to curtail the war powers of the President, nor to begin attacks upon labor, farmers or any other group in the nation, nor can we allow those "selfish forces" to butcher the existing social and labor guarantees and thereby impair production, lower worker morale, and promote national disunity.

Repeal of Poll Tax Demanded By Prominent Tennesseans

"Let the Voice of the People Be Heard—Repeal the Poll Tax" was the title of a statement issued on January 11 by the Davidson County Committee for the Repeal of the Poll Tax in Tennessee.

In the last legislature, repeal was a major issue. The campaign militantly waged at that time has been continued with the broadest possible popular support. Proponents of repeal are confident that they will be successful during the present legislative session.

A Blow for Freedom

"While our boys are fighting and dying on foreign battle fields for a democratic world," said the Committee's statement, "will you help to strike a mighty blow for freedom on the home front by bringing a free ballot to the people of Tennessee?"

Call for Action

Citizens were asked specifically to telegraph or write their state representatives and senators, to write the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, Mr. French Grubb, asking for a favorable report on S. B. 1, and to write their local papers.

Voters were cautioned to watch the vote of their representatives on this issue. "Will they vote with the people," said the statement, "or against them; for or against democracy?"

Ask Politicians to Redeem Pledges

Pointing out that in response to overwhelming demands of the people from church groups, women's organizations, clubs, teachers, and all branches of labor, that both Democratic and Republican parties, and all candidates for governor for six years, had pledged themselves to support repeal of the poll tax, the Committee declared that "the people demand that these pledges be redeemed."

Members of the Committee

Members of the Committee signing the statement were:

Dr. Thomas C. Barr, Pastor of Belmont Presbyterian Church; Dr. J. E. Burk, President of Ward-Belmont; Dr. Albert B. Barnett, Professor of New Testament, Scarritt College; Dr. John K. Benton, Dean School of Religion, Vanderbilt; Dr. Wirt A. Cate, Professor of Watkins Institute; Dr. James E. Clark, Clerk of the Nashville Presbytery, Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.; Dr. H. B. Cross, Pastor Judson Memorial Baptist Church; the Rt. Rev. E. P. Dandridge, Bishop Coadjutor, Diocese of Tennessee, Episcopal Church; Mr. M. W. Day, Editor Nashville Globe; Dr. E. J. Eberling, Professor of Economics, Vanderbilt University; Dr. W. H. Faulkner, Dean of Men, Fisk University; Mr. Henry Hart, Student Christian Association General Secretary, Vanderbilt; Mrs. Julian Hirsch, Mrs. B. G. Hodge; Mr. W. W. Johnson, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; Leon Jourolmon, Tennessee Commissioner of Public Utilities; The Rt. Rev. Paul B. Kern, Bishop of the Nashville Area, Methodist Church; Mrs. Julius Mark; Mr. Mortimer May, May Hosiery Mill; Mrs. Donald M. Maynard; Mr. F. L. Medlin, Secretary Tennessee Federation of Labor; Mrs. Wilson L. Miser; Dr. Roger T. Nooe, Pastor Vine Street Christian Church; Dr. Robert E. Park, Visiting Professor, Fisk University; Miss Ina Scherreback, General Secretary, Y. W. C. A.; Miss Lora Lee Pederson, Director, Nashville School of Social Work; Mr. Jennings Perry, Editor Nashville Tennessean; Dr. Edward T. Ramsdell, Professor of Theology, Vanderbilt; Mr. Jordan Stokes III, Attorney; Dr. King Vivion, Pastor McKendree Methodist Church; Mr. Albert Williams, Attorney; Mr. Grant Williams, Representative Textile Workers Union of America.

The people of Tennessee, individually and through hundreds of organizations, are demanding that the state legislature, now in session, repeal the poll tax. Unless the administration and the legislature ignore the will of the people in the most cynical fashion, the poll tax will be killed in Tennessee this session.

Six other poll tax legislatures will be in session this year. What are you or your organizations doing on this all-important issue? Are you too helping "to strike a mighty blow for freedom on the home front by bringing a free ballot to the people" of your state?

Co-ops Help Small Farmers

Group action, applied to all sorts of problems that beset small farmers, is making the agricultural South more efficient. Farmers are sharing vitally needed farm machinery, sharing the use of purebred sires for improvement of livestock herds, buying and selling together. And the farm homemakers are cooperating on everything from buying fruit jars to using washing machines.

Louisiana Leads

In Louisiana, for example, the cooperative movement among low-income families has reached an all-time high. The war gave small farmer-cooperatives a tremendous opportunity. About 14,000 of Louisiana's small farmers, faced with the necessity of increasing their production despite shortages of machinery and limited cash, turned to group action. They organized 663 cooperative projects, including about 200 for breeding sires, another 200 for farm machines and storage, five for canning plants, five for hatcheries, and one plant-growing center. There are 37 parish health associations and 51 parish purchasing and marketing associations, through which farmers sell surplus Food-for-Freedom crops after home needs are met.

How They Do It

Here's an example of how small co-op services are functioning in the three southeastern Louisiana parishes of St. Helena, Tangipahoa and Washington:

Two hundred and forty low-income families in this area decided to abandon one-crop cotton farming in favor of dairying, gardening, sheep, hog and poultry projects. Three-fourths of the groups did not own even one milch cow.

They obtained loans averaging $750 from FSA, bought about eight Jersey cows each, built barns meet,

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Southerners Plead Wellman Case

William Wellman, a Negro worker, is accused of having attacked a 67-year-old white woman in Statesville, N. C., on February 11, 1941, at 2 p.m.

Payroll records of a District of Columbia construction company indicate that Wellman was employed on a construction job in Virginia, 400 miles away; that the timekeeper checked him as present on the job at 7:30 a.m., February 11, once during the morning and afternoon, and at closing time, 4 p.m.

Governor Grants Reprieve

Wellman was tried and convicted of the charge and was scheduled to die December 18. On December 15, Governor J. M. Broughton of North Carolina granted Wellman a 60-day reprieve and indicated that his doubt of Wellman's guilt is so strong that he will release the prisoner if his present impression in the case is confirmed.

Prominent southerners and many organizations have urged Governor Broughton to grant Wellman a pardon. A partial list of those actively interested in the case in North Carolina includes Paul Green, playwright; Rev. S. L. Morgan, Wake Forest; Rev. E. D. C. Brewer, Charlotte; Rev. Howard C. Wilkinson, Charlotte; Rev. Ernest J. Arnold, executive secretary of the North Carolina Council of Churches, Durham; and A. W. McAlister, Greensboro. The staff of the John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, wired the governor, and the board of fellows of Black Mountain College took similar action. The Winston-Salem Ministerial Alliance also went on record. Two thousand citizens of Winston-Salem petitioned the governor to save Wellman's life. Tarleton Collier, acting president of the SCFHW, of Louisville, Kentucky, wired the governor on behalf of the conference. Throughout the South and nation, countless others from church, union, farm, fraternal or business organizations were moved by the facts to urge Broughton to further action. Those who have not yet done so should communicate with the governor commending his action and requesting that in the interests of justice and our democratic war aims, Wellman be pardoned.

Co-ops

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ing specifications of the State Health Department, drilled wells, installed sanitary toilets, bought dairy utensils, made plans for developing permanent pastures.

Success Story

The families established dairy routes to get the milk to the railroads for shipment to New Orleans and Baton Rouge markets. And this is what has happened: Seven out of eight cows are producing 2½ gallons of milk a day. The average new dairyman with eight cows is getting a gross income of $90 to $160 a month. (His average income as a cotton farmer was $200 to $250 a year.) Each month the creamery which buys his milk honors an assignment to the FSA for a portion of the check. The payment to FSA runs from $10 to $15 a month. Loans are being paid off rapidly—not one in the three parishes is delinquent. The dairy farmers receive additional income from the sale of bull calves and old cows.

The same families are enlarging poultry and pork production. All have gardens which yield enough vegetables for 100 quarts per person of canned food. Extra produce is marketed through the parish P. & M. associations.

Marketing Co-ops in Florida

From Escambia Farms, an FSA project in Florida, comes another story of success through cooperative activity. Seventy-nine farmers are utilizing group marketing arrangements developed through their cooperative association to market this year $70,000 worth of eggs; 90,000 pounds of beans, to a cannery filling a war contract; 20,000 gallons of syrup; 1,200 No. 1 hogs; and 150 head of cattle. From a small beginning, the plan has spread until now wholesale jobbers, canning plants, and livestock markets contact the Escambia Co-operative Association to buy their products.

Gum Co-op in Georgia

Twenty-eight "defense evacuees" in Jeff Davis County, former turpentine wage hands and sharecroppers, were given a new start on the Hinesville Relocation project of the FSA near Hazlehurst. Now they are raising their own crops, food and livestock and producing about $1,190 worth of crude gum for war industries each month—turpentine and resin for varnishes and coatings for tanks and core binders and metal castings for ships and armored equipment.

They sell their gum cooperatively and bargain for a good price because of the quantity made up by pooling gums. Working 75,000 faces, they will produce approximately 800 barrels in their first year of operation.

Two other groups formed the Relocation Equipment Service Cooperative Association, in Jeff Davis County, and the Ocmulgee Cooperative Association, in Wheeler County. Each group bought a tractor, peanut picker, power mower and rake, power baler, harrow, plow disc, platform scale, and baling wire, through a Farm Security loan. By using the equipment cooperatively, each farmer can get his work done more efficiently, in shorter time.

New Civil Rights Pamphlet

To Secure for Negroes Their Basic Civil Rights. Public Affairs News Service, Bulletin No. 2, Series No. 7, December 16, 1942; YWCA, 600 Lexington Ave., New York, N. Y. 10 pp. mimeographed, 10 cents. A good introduction to this important subject.